

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1 – 20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A dishwasher comprising a washing container, devices for applying rinsing liquor to the items to be washed in the washing container, and one or more devices for generating a gas having an oxidizing effect that is employed in at least one wash program comprising partial program steps e.g. "pre-wash", "clean", "intermediate rinse" and "clear rinse" a wash program, the washing container being operable to receive therein wherein the a gas having an oxidising effect is provided to the washing container during the wash program by at least one of adding that has been added the gas to the rinsing liquor, adding the gas to or the raw water and/or otherwise and adding the gas into the an interior of the washing container for use for a partial program step having a cleaning effect, e.g. "clean" so that the gas can at least be used for cleaning and disinfection.

22. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect can be applied to the items to be washed in cooperation with mist in the interior of the washing container.

23. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher according to claim 22, wherein the mist can be produced from the rinsing liquid or the raw water by a nebulising device, e.g. an the nebulising device including at least one of an ultrasound nebuliser and or a nebulising nozzle.

24. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher according to claim 23, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is already added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water which is supplied to the nebulising device.

25. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 23, wherein no gas having an oxidising effect is already added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water which is supplied to the nebulising device and the gas having an oxidising effect is added directly to the interior of the washing container.

26. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor for solution and reaction, using a porous membrane in the rinsing liquor, preferably at the bottom of the washing container.

27. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor for solution and reaction using a water jet diffuser for fine distribution of the gas.

28. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the-a water jet pump is disposed in the-a raw water pipe or in the-a circulating pipe for acting upon the devices for applying rinsing liquor to the items to be washed, wherein preferably only a portion of the raw water or the rinsing liquor is passed to a branch.

29. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water in the-at least one of a rinsing liquor reservoir and a and/or the heat exchanger for disinfection, to prevent growth of bacteria in the at least one of a rinsing liquor reservoir and/or and a heat exchanger.

30. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is ozone which is produced in an ozone generator.
31. (Withdrawn) A method for using a gas having an oxidising effect in a dishwasher having at least one wash program comprising partial program steps e.g. "pre-wash", "clean", "intermediate rinse" and "clear rinse", characterised in that a gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water and/or into the interior of the washing container for use for a partial program step having a cleaning effect, e.g. "clean" so that the gas can at least be used for cleaning and disinfection.
32. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 31, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect can be applied to the items to be washed in cooperation with mist in the interior of the washing container.
33. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 32, wherein the mist can be produced from rinsing liquid or raw water by a nebulising device, e.g. an ultrasonic nebuliser or a nebulising nozzle.
34. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 33, wherein gas having an oxidising effect is already added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water which is supplied to the nebulising device.
35. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 33, wherein no gas having an oxidising effect is already added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water which is supplied to the nebulising device and the gas having an oxidising effect is added directly to the washing container.
36. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 31, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor for solution and reaction, using a

porous membrane in the rinsing liquor, preferably at the bottom of the washing container.

37. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 31, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor for solution and reaction using a water jet pump with a diffuser for fine distribution of the gas.
38. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 31, wherein the surface tension of the rinsing liquor is lowered by adding tensides to the rinsing liquor and the effect of the ultrasonic nebuliser is thereby enhanced.
39. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 31, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is ozone, which is produced in an ozone generator.
40. (Previously Presented) A dishwasher comprising a washing container and devices for applying rinsing liquor to the items to be washed in the washing container, the washing container being operable to receive therein ozone-enriched mist at least for cleaning items to be washed.